

Informational status briefings concerning the Switching Operations Fatality Analysis task force efforts and the Grade Crossing Technical Working Group will be presented.

Please refer to the notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 11, 1996 (61 FR 9740) for more information about the RSAC.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 18, 2000.

**George Gavalla,**

*Associate Administrator for Safety.*

[FR Doc. 00-21677 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

**Docket Number: [MARAD-2000-7832]**

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel INTEGRITY.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by Public Law 105-383, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Public Law 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388 (65 FR 6905; February 11, 2000) that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels, a waiver will not be granted.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before September 25, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2000-7832. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying

at the above address between 10 am and 5 pm, ET, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gordon Angell, Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-832 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5129.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title V of Public Law 105-383 provides authority to the Secretary of Transportation to administratively waive the U.S.-build requirements of the Jones Act, and other statutes, for small commercial passenger vessels (no more than 12 passengers). This authority has been delegated to the Maritime Administration per 49 CFR 1.66, Delegations to the Maritime Administrator, as amended. By this notice, MARAD is publishing information on a vessel for which a request for a U.S.-build waiver has been received, and for which MARAD requests comments from interested parties. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD'S regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

#### Vessel Proposed for Waiver of the U.S.-Build Requirement

(1) Name of vessel and owner for which waiver is requested: Name of vessel: *Integrity*. Owner: Peter S. Whiting.

(2) Size, capacity and tonnage of vessel: According to the Applicant: The vessel is 46 feet long. The gross tonnage is 27 tons; the net tonnage is 25 tons.

(3) Intended use for vessel, including geographic region of intended operation and trade: According to the applicant: Vessel will primarily offer daily luncheon sails. Some weekend or weekly crewed charters may be offered. The vessel will be used for skippered charters in the Pacific Northwest including the waters of Puget Sound and San Juan Islands in the state of Washington.

(4) Date and place of construction and (if applicable) rebuilding: Vessel was built in 1984 in Taiwan.

(5) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on other commercial passenger vessel operators: According to the applicant: Vessel should have no impact on other commercial vessels in

the area. Existing operators are primarily offering whale watch charters while we will be doing sailing excursions of varying lengths, from a few hours to several days. There are a few sailboats offering skippered charters, however they are mostly for week-long charters in the San Juan and Gulf Islands while we will primarily focus on afternoon luncheon charters with an occasional longer term charter.

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards: According to the applicant: There should be no effect on U.S. shipyards by the granting of this waiver.

Dated: August 21, 2000.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**Joel C. Richard,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-21684 Filed 8-24-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

**Docket Number: [MARAD-2000-7831]**

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel MENEHUNE.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by Public Law 105-383, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Public Law 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (65 FR 6905; February 11, 2000) that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels, a waiver will not be granted.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before September 25, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2000-7831. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401,

Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-832 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-4357.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title V of Public Law 105-383 provides authority to the Secretary of Transportation to administratively waive the U.S.-build requirements of the Jones Act, and other statutes, for small commercial passenger vessels (no more than 12 passengers). This authority has been delegated to the Maritime Administration per 49 CFR § 1.66, Delegations to the Maritime Administrator, as amended. By this notice, MARAD is publishing information on a vessel for which a request for a U.S.-build waiver has been received, and for which MARAD requests comments from interested parties. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

#### **Vessel Proposed for Waiver of the U.S.-Build Requirement**

(1) Name of vessel and owner for which waiver is requested: Name of vessel: MENEHUNE. Owner: John M. Cece and Mary F. Cece.

(2) Size, capacity and tonnage of vessel: According to the Applicant: MENEHUNE is 42 feet long, with a beam of 13 feet and a gross tonnage of 24 tons (Net Tons: 22).

(3) Intended use for vessel, including geographic region of intended operation and trade: According to the applicant: The intended use of the vessel, after the granting of the waiver, is to conduct recreational, and learning cruises (usually day sails) on the Chesapeake Bay. The maximum number of passengers/students will be six (6) (NOT for the purpose of transportation between US ports, but for the purpose of recreation, and teaching sailing).

This will enable the vessel to operate as an uninspected vessel with a coastwise endorsement. The charter/lessons will be conducted by Menehune Charters in conjunction with Menehune Marine Services and John and Mary Cece. Menehune Marine Services is a Maryland Corporation and citizen of the United States.

(4) Date and place of construction and (if applicable) rebuilding: Date of construction: 1982. Place of construction: Whitby, Canada.

(5) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on other commercial passenger vessel operators: According to the applicant: It is anticipated that there will be NO impact on other commercial passenger operators (we anticipate that our passengers/students will come from an existing database of persons who have sailed with us in the past). Our charter/teaching operation was established in 1980.

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards: According to the applicant: Granting of this waiver will have a positive impact on US shipyards. In addition to the estimated \$20,000 already deposited with US shipyards/suppliers for repair and upgrade of this vessel, we will continue to purchase stores, fuel, repairs, and wharfage from US businesses.

If the waiver is NOT granted, the vessel will NOT be used in commercial voyages, and expenditures will be minimal. In addition, if the business expands, we may purchase a larger vessel which will be U.S. built and certified as an Inspected Vessel.

Dated: August 21, 2000.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**Joel C. Richard,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-21686 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

##### **Maritime Administration**

##### **Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council**

**ACTION:** National Advisory Council public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Maritime Administration announces that the Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council (MTSNAC) will hold a meeting to discuss the Council's awareness initiative and strategic focus. A public comment period is scheduled for 1:15 to 1:45. To provide time for as many people to speak as possible,

speaking time for each individual will be limited to three minutes. Members of the public who would like to speak are asked to contact Kathleen Dunn by September 5, 2000. Commenters will be placed on the agenda in the order in which notifications are received. If time allows, additional comments will be permitted. Oral comments must be submitted in writing at the meeting. Additional written comments are welcome and must be filed by September 15, 2000.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday September 7, 2000, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Delaware Ballroom of the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road, NW, Washington, DC 20008. The hotel's phone number is (202) 328-2000.

##### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kathleen R. Dunn, (202) 366-2307; Maritime Administration, MAR 810, Room 7209, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590; Kathleen.Dunn@marad.dot.gov.

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. App 2, Sec. 9(a)(2); 41 CFR 101-6.1005; DOT Order 1120.3B.

Dated: August 21, 2000.

**Joel C. Richard,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-21685 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

##### **Research and Special Programs Administration**

##### **Office of Hazardous Materials Safety; Notice of Delays in Processing of Exemption Applications**

**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** List of Applications Delayed more than 180 days.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5117(c), RSPA is publishing the following list of exemption applications that have been in process for 180 days or more. The reason(s) for delay and the expected completion date for action on each application is provided in association with each identified application.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** J. Suzanne Hedgepeth, Director, Office of Hazardous Materials, Exemption and Approvals, Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4535.